

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed 12/12/2007, the Examiner has indicated that the pending claims are directed to the following four groups:

Group I: Claims 1, 3-16, 37, 38, drawn to a composition comprising a reduced isoalpha acid, dihydro-isoalpha acid, tetrahydroisoalpha acid or hexa hydroisoalpha acid and a non aspirin anti-inflammatory compound,

Group II: Claims 17-32, 39, drawn to a first method of using the composition of group 1;

Group III: Claims 33, 40, drawn to second method of using the composition of group I;

Group IV: Claims 34-36, 41, drawn to a third method of using the composition of group I;

The Examiner has required election of a claim group and a specific compound in that group. To be responsive the Office Action, Applicants make the following election:

- Group I claims, drawn to a composition...;
- Tetrahydro-isohumulone, with traverse, as a species of reduced isoalpha acids; and
- Ibuprofen, with traverse, as a species of a non-aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compound.

Applicants elect tetrahydro-isohumulone with traverse and respectfully request the Examiner to consider all nine species of reduced isoalpha acids currently recited in claim 6. Applicants submit that searching of these nine compounds does not create a serious burden for the Examiner and that these compounds have been considered together in other related applications.

Applicants further elect ibuprofen as a species of non-aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compound with traverse. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider all species of a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compound claimed given that the claims will be limited to the above-mentioned nine species of reduced isoalpha acids. Applicants submit that it would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to consider all non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compounds claimed because a thorough cross-search of any of the reduced isoalpha acids listed in claim 6 with, for example, the terms 'non-steroidal and anti-inflammatory' should necessarily uncover art relevant to the non-elected non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compounds.


The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent for any questions or issues.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 501133 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

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By: 
Atabak R. Royae, Reg. No. 59,037
McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP
28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109-1775
Tel. (617) 535-4108
Fax: (617) 535-3800